## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

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For Release

INTERIOR AND CORPS OF ENGINEERS LAND TO BE AVAILABLE FOR WILDLIFE ON MARION DAM PROJECT, KANSAS

A general plan clearing the way for managing fish and wildlife resources on approximately 4,300 acres of Federal land at the Marion Dam and Reservoir, Kansas, has been signed by George C. Moore, Director of the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission, Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall, and Secretary of the Army Stanley R. Resor, the Department of the Interior announced today.

The Marion Dam and Reservoir was constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for flood and water quality control. The 4,300 acres of project land will be administered by the Kansas Forestry, Fish and Game Commission. A state fish hatchery will be contructed on 60 acres of project land immediately downstream from the dam. The Kansas department will develop and manage the remaining acreage primarily for resident upland game. The area will also provide valuable waterfowl habitat.

General plans on water development projects are provided for by the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act to permit the conservation and development of fish and wildlife habitat at Federal water development projects. Under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, in cooperation with the State game and fish departments, studies proposed developments to determine effects upon fish and wildlife resources and to determine measures needed to prevent and compensate for damages or to improve these resources.

Land was made available by the Corps of Engineers for administration by the Kansas department as a result of studies carried out by Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife technicians, working closely with the Kansas Forestry, Fish, and Game Commission.